

This is in regards to the National Association of Broadcasters plan to lobby Congress to restrict XM Satellite Radio and others from broadcasting "local" content such as traffic and weather.

As a subscriber to XM radio, I am ABSOLUTELY against this plan. I switched to XM specifically because of the traffic option. I made the choice to subscribe to XM because of the choices that I could take advantage of. I want these choices and the government needs to support the consumer, and not those that want to restrict our choices.

I want to give you an example of why I don't want the NAB to restrict traffic programming. For years, I have listened to WDBO in Orlando for news, weather and traffic and was always amazed at how inaccurate their traffic alerts were. In fact, on a few occasions, I heard them announce a location of a traffic accident which was along the route that I normally use on my way home. ON EACH OCCASION, there was no accident. At other times, there was an accident, but no announcement was ever made on WDBO. As ridiculous as that sounds, on occasion, I took a different route when a traffic accident was announced because I knew that the contradiction would be true, and no accident would be present. Following that logic, I was never disappointed.

Within one month of purchasing XM radio, I was listening to the traffic station and they announced that there was an accident at Bumby and Raeford in Orlando. This was just down the street from my house, and I was on my way home. Surprisingly, they were correct! Then two days later, there was announcement of a water main break at the other end of Bumby Ave. I was in the car heading that direction, and found the road was blocked because of the break. Again, I was surprised...they were right!

The advantage to XM traffic is that I can get an update at any time, day or night. This option is NOT available with normal radio.

Frankly, if I could, I would fire my local radio stations. They don't offer the choices I want, and I will remind you that this is the United States, not a totalitarian regime. I want my choices and I want you to fight for them.

Perhaps if their programming were better, people would not switch to another choice, which I would like to remind them that WE are paying for, NOT THEM!

DO NOT ALLOW THE NAB TO STOP XM FROM OFFERING TRAFFIC AND OTHER LOCAL PROGRAMMING CHOICES.